

The White Paper On Punjab Conceals More Than It Reveals

By : Giani Brahma Singh, Ajmer

Amritsar Golden Temple holocaust was re-enacted after a span of almost two and a quarter century (1762 A.D.) when Ahmad Shah Abdali—ninetime Pathan invader of India raid the Harimandir to ground and filled the sacred sarowar with the slaughtered kine and the debris of the fallen buildings around so that the wounded and maimed Sikh soldiers would not wash and turn whole, ready for re-battling.

The late Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale and his devotees, (Indians or outsiders perforce dropped on him, were—so to say—successful in building the "Impregnable Bastion", fall of which was a proud presentation on the T.V., in the premises of the Holy Akal Takht, now in shambles. As evident from the news-media, the multiple causes therefore volitional or involuntary, involvement by the State and Central Governments, ruling Congress and other political parties, Akalis, foreign elements and private vested interests, need no repetition.

This professedly perforce legitimised for the Prime Minister and the President, to restore peace in the border state, to deploy, very reluctantly, three top-most Military Generals with Col. Israr and his world's finest and specifically the teeth and battling for the first time here in the history of the Indian Army supported by nearly 70,000 or so crack fighters dexterously manning tanks, rockets, armoured personnel carriers etc. seemingly to catch or kill one Khalsa—Singh. Someone who mattered, is supposed to have said, "What we fought in Amritsar was not a battle of stray hoodlums. It was a war against Khalistan." May I know that the "White Paper" would be clarifying that the poor harassed Punjabi Hindus and Sikhs shall have no fear of such a non-Sikhs and non-Indian manufactured sacrilege. There is a whisper afloat that all this huge army handobast was not there when we fought against Nizam's Razzakaars to annex his territory after the Independence.

I hope the "White Paper" shall also reveal as to how it was unavoidable to pour death on unnumbered innocents—infants, children, young and old, male and female, indiscriminately, while basking their family warmth enconced in

their 2 to 3 century old houses in Tarkhanawali Gali, bazaara Kathian Maiari (Jhootha), Paapran (linked with my school day life) and Chauk Darbar Sahib area, where displaced Hindus and Sikhs have re-established flourishing cloth business. I am sure this close-knit locality was not marked as an Enemy or Tribal area to be blown off with the shells probably cast and turned by the hands of the kith and kin of the residents themselves.

What will late Sant Bhindranwale go as in the eyes of our "White Paper"? A Sant, an Apostle, a Martyr or a Traitor. In the opinion of many a deep thinkers, he was a man of no deep political wisdom and farsight. Precociously he rose to international glory but failed to retain it. Sensing impending disaster to the Holy shrine, it was wise for him to surrender announcing whatever conviction dear to him. This would save all this carnage and allowed the political and communal harmony and peace live unsinged any more.

But was he actually alive when the call for surrender came in his den. Had he not been made short shrift of earlier by the Bahhars as appeared in the Press? It is in the fitness of things that the "White Paper" blows off all the most enveloping his death

as he may grow into a bigger god now than when alive sitting with his ready pistol or stengun on his lap and Gurhani on his lip.

But Alas! the long drawn political incrimination and hantling among the multiple political factions, somewhere under the clout of religion—including Sikhs—have been successful to singe or tar unimpeachable spiritual history of Darbar Sahib and Akal Takht (almost irreparable now to the vanished glory and sanctimoniousness) and with it the Sikh National Prestige, built with innumerable supreme sacrifices for India and the world at large.

The emergence of the truth and the whole truth shall positively elicit unalloyed support, physical and moral, for the justification of this unprecedented action and reweave the lacerated fabric of the Hindu Sikh inseparability for common man nurtures little keenness in party-politics and wants to earn his daily bread sans any conflicts.

But will the truth and the whole truth ever reveal its face from the government machinery and its handlers when their "ear and eyes had been under mortgage all the time" during the President rule in the Punjab and when the "Impregnable Bastion" kept attacking.

Blatant Attempt to Capture Sikh Gurdwaras

Sardar Balwant Singh, former Punjab Finance Minister, and senior Akali leader, has denounced the latest move by the Central Government and the Congress Party to organize a convention of party supporters under the camouflage of "Sarbat Khalsa" as a blatant attempt to capture the Sikhs' church.

In a statement issued he said the active connivance of the Central Government Minister, the Haryana Chief Minister and the office-bearers of Congress (I) in the organization of the so-called meeting of "Sarbat Khalsa" exposed the secular pretensions of the Congress Party. Ever since India's independence, the Congress (I) had been making efforts to capture the Sikhs' church while Shiromani Akali Dal had been fighting against the efforts of the Union Government and Congress (I).

He said the meeting under the shadow of guns was a contradiction in terms because the "Sarbat Khalsa" could meet under conditions of total freedom and on a call only by the Akal Takht.

Sardar Balwant Singh endorsed the directive of the Akal Takht jathedar and his other colleagues to the Sikhs to boycott the Government-sponsored and politically motivated convention to be held on August 11 and called upon the Opposition parties to raise a voice of protest against Government's interference in the Sikh religious affairs.

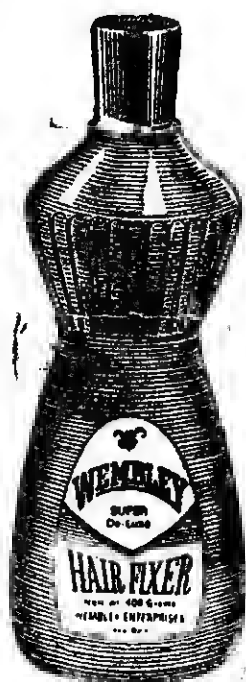
Sikhs Not To Celebrate Raksha Bandhan

The Delhi Singh Sabhas Confederation has called upon the Sikhs community not to celebrate Raksha Bandhan on August 11 in protest against the Army action in Punjab.

Addressing a Press conference at Gurdwara Bangla Sahib in New Delhi Sardar Rajinder Singh Monga, general secretary of the Confederation criticized the holding of a proposed convention of Sikhs, to be held in Amritsar on August 11 under the leadership of the Nihang Santa Singh.

Sardar Rajinder Singh said the five priests of the Akal Takht had already declared Nihang Santa Singh as a "tankhaiya" (guilty of a religious offence) and as such he had no authority to discuss and determine the affairs of the Khalsa Panth.

The Confederation welcomed the release of Talvinder Singh, alleged terrorist from a West German jail recently.



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